AZAD) : (a) The year-wise expenditure on litigations was as under :—

Year	Legal expenditure
1990-91 . .	Rs. 05,31,506.72
1991-92 . .	Rs. 12,33,377.40
1992-93 . .	Rs. 08,82,753.85

(b) and (c) While there was increase of Rs. 7,01,871 during 1991-92 over 1990-91^ the expenditure during 1992-93 was lowe, by Rs. 3,50,624 over the year 1991-92. The legal expenditure during the year 1991-92 was higher mainly due to a payment of Rs. 5.26 lakhs in defence of a case relating to a foreign guest who sustained injuries while swimming in the swimming pool of Akbar Hotel in which a compensation claim of Rs. 3 crores has been raised.

(d) Compared to the business turnover, legal expenditure has been normal. Howeveri wherever possible, efforts are made to minimise such expenses.

(e) No. Sir.

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(f) Improvement is a continuing process. More stress is being given to conciliation proceedings and early settlements.

Russi Mody's remark on the running of Airline

2523. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention ha been drawn to the interview of Shri Russi Mody, part time Chairman AI/IA published in 'India Today; and

(b) if. so. what is Government's reaction "Hkthe Chairman's remark that "Running offrle Airline should be exact like I would run a pr>Kl? sector industry ?

THE MINISTE^t>*i^^n. AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHOlAlU i«]lBI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government wants Air India and Indian Airlines to function efficiently and professioally.

Conditions laid by Chairman of AI/IA

2524. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the interview of Chairman of Air India/Indian Airlines published in "Sunday" Magazine dated November 20— 26, 1994 about his accountability to the Ministry/Government ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has been told about the same by him as one of the conditions before he accepted the offer to become the Chairman of I A/ AI; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NAB AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Lowering of equity in

2525. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the interview of Chairman, AI/IA published in "Sunday" magazine of 20th—26th November, 1994;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Government have permitted the Chairman to consider bringing, down Government equity to 49 percent and bring Singapore Airlines or some other airlines to hold 51 percent equity; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government there to?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Viewk expressed by the Chairman of Air India and Indian Airlines are hia personal.